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BRITISH PRESS ASSAILS U.S. FOR GIVING SOVIET 'PROPAGANDA VICTORY'

Some London Newspapers Call American 'Fools', 'Idiots'; President, Secretary Presumably Reviewed Incident

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London, May 8 (AP)—West European officials appeared deeply disturbed today by Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's success in exposing the intelligence activities of a United States jet plane over the Soviet Union.

There were widespread fears among free-world diplomats here that the American position in the Paris summit conference next week had been badly weakened.

At Home

Washington, May 8 (AP)—President Eisenhower, due to face Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev across the summit table a week from tomorrow, called his Secretary of State for an unscheduled conference today.

Presumably the prime topic of their discussion was the foreign policy impact of the United States spy-plane incident.

Mr. Eisenhower met with Secretary of State, Christian A. Herter, immediately on returning to the White House from a weekend trip to his Gettysburg farm.

Herter was at the White House when the President arrived at 4:45 P.M. and remained with Eisenhower until 6 P.M. After he left, the White House said there would be no comment on the discussion.

Herter's car was seen only after leaving Herter's automobile on the White House grounds. They conferred through the President's press secretary, James C. Hager.

Herter, who arrived Friday from an official fact-finding mission in Europe, spent most of yesterday in the State Department office reviewing preparations for the summit conference. He said that the American position was "not as strong as it should be."

The White House conference came as top officials said Khrushchev could virtually wreck prospects for friendly talks at the summit if he continued to hammer at the incident.

Meeting In Paris

The Soviet leader's public behavior in the next few days, these officials said, will determine the mood in which Mr. Eisenhower will approach the meeting in Paris next Monday.

A Republican congressional spokesman, Representative Miller of New York, suggested that Mr. Eisenhower might refuse to attend the Big Four meeting if Khrushchev "makes a circus out of" the plane episode in the next few days.

Miller, chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, said the fate of the summit parley was at stake—depending on how Mr. Khrushchev handles it (the incident).

Speaking on a television program (CBS Face the Nation), Miller said "I suppose it does" when asked whether the United States admission jeopardized the life of the captured pilot.

Another Republican, Senator Case of New Jersey, said the United States had a right to send planes on spying missions over Russia.

Speaking on a television program (ABC College News), Case was asked if he thought this country could "outwit" the Soviet espionage purposes.

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Exploitation Feared

Further moves by Khrushchev to exploit the incident in spectacular fashion will convince Mr. Eisenhower that the Soviet leader is more interested in propaganda than in creating a serene atmosphere for discussion of critical world problems, it is believed.

Diplomatic authorities said the case already has dimmed what slim prospects there were that the top level Big Four meeting could resolve the East-West deadlocks on the future of Berlin, Germany and disarmament.

Mr. Eisenhower and his top aides clearly would be deeply disturbed if, for example, Khrushchev put the captured American flier on public display at a giant news conference or if he were put on public trial before the summit conference.

The frank admission by the State Department last night that the plane was on a high-altitude spy mission was clearly drafted with the hope that the Kremlin would play down further handling of the case lest it inflame East-West relations.

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